

sand miles, to let each other know what game they had killed the preceding days. The King of Sardinia was a fool. All these were Bourbons. The Queen of Portugal, a Braganza, was an idiot by nature, and so was the King of Denmark. Their sons, as regents, exercised the powers of governments. The King of Prussia, successor to the great Frederick, was a mere hog in body as well as in mind. Gustavus of Sweden and Joseph of Austria were really crazy, and George of England, as you know, was in a straight waistcoat. There remained then none but old Catharine who had been too lately picked up to have lost her common sense. In this state Bonaparte found Europe; and it was this state of its rulers which lost it with scarce a struggle. These animals had become without mind and powerless; and so will every hereditary monarch be after a few generations. Alexander, the grandson of Catharine, is as yet an exception. He is able to hold his own, but he is only of the third generation. His race is not yet worn out. And so endeth the book of kings, from all of whom the Lord deliver us, and have you, my friend, and all such good men and true in his holy keeping. (To Governor Langdon, 1810. C. V.,

5140

KOSCIUSKO.—I see Kosciusko often and with great pleasure mixed with commiseration. He is as pure a son of liberty as I have ever known, and of that liberty which is to go to all, and not to the few or the rich alone. (To Horatius Gates, 1798. F. VII, 204.)

LAFAYETTE.—Your principles are decidedly with the *tiers etat*, and your instructions against them. A compliance to the latter on some occasions, and an adherence to' the former on others, may give an appearance of trimming between the two parties which, may lose you both. You will in the end go over wholly to the *tiers etat*, because it will be impossible for you to live in a constant sacrifice of your own sentiments to the prejudices of the noblesse. But you would be received by the *tiers etat* at any future day coldly and without confidence. It appears to me the moment to take that honest and manly stand with them which your own principles dictate. This will win